

Revised Agenda – 2/15/2008

## **Advisory Committee on Water Information (ACWI) 2008 Annual Meeting – February 20-21, 2008**

Crowne Plaza Dulles Airport  
2200 Centreville Road, Herndon, VA 20170  
703-471-6700; 703-742-8965 (fax)

*Celebrating a Decade of Successful Accomplishments  
1997-2007*

### **AGENDA**

#### **DAY ONE – WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2008**

- 7:30 am**                      **Check In and Refreshments**
- 8:30 am**                      **Open the Meeting and Introductions**  
Robert Hirsch, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS),  
Associate Director for Water and ACWI Alternate Chair
- 8:40 am**                      **Welcome Remarks**  
Tim Petty, U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI)  
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Water and Science and ACWI Chair
- 8:55 am**                      **Introductions Around the Room**  
ACWI Members and Guests
- 9:05 am**                      **ACWI Federal Roundtable**  
Brief updates from Federal agency managers on significant changes in  
water programs and funding in FY 2009 (**10 minutes each**)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Mike Shapiro,  
Deputy Assistant Administrator for Water
  - U.S. Department of Agriculture – Richard Swenson,  
Animal Husbandry and Clean Water Division
  - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration – Gary Carter,  
Office of Hydrologic Development
  - U.S. Geological Survey – Wendy Norton,  
Office of Budget and Performance
  - Tennessee Valley Authority – Jack Brellenthin,  
Environmental Policy and Strategy
  - Federal Emergency Management Agency – Allyson Lichtenfels,  
Flood Mapping Modernization Program

- 10:05 am**                    **BREAK (10 minutes)**
- 10:15 am**                    **ACWI Report: Subcommittee on Ground Water (SOGW)**
- **10:15 am** – Overview  
Bob Schreiber, ACWI Rep for American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) and SOGW Co-Chair
  - **10:25 am** – Reports from SOGW Work Groups (**10 minutes each**)
    - Inventory – Bill Cunningham, USGS Co-Chair
    - Framework Design – Bob Schreiber, ASCE
    - Field Practices – John Jansen
    - Data Standards and Management – Chuck Job, USEPA
  - **11:05 am** – Next Steps – Bob Schreiber, Bill Cunningham
- 11:15 am**                    *ACWI Discussion and Response on SOGW*
- 11:30 am**                    **ACWI Report: National Liaison Committee for the National Water Quality Assessment Program (NAWQA)**
- **11:30 am** – Donna Myers, USGS Chief, NAWQA
  - **11:50 am** – Liaison Committee Status and Scheduled Briefings, Judy Campbell Bird, Contractor and Liaison Leader
- 12:00 pm**                    *ACWI Discussion and Response on NAWQA/Liaison Activities*
- 12:10 – 12:25 pm**        **ACWI Update: Sixth National Water Quality Monitoring Conference**  
May 18-22, 2008 Atlantic City, New Jersey  
Charles Spooner, USEPA Conference Tri-Chair  
<http://www.wef.org/ConferencesTraining/ConferencesEvents/NatlWaterQualityMonitoringConference/>
- 12:25 pm**                    *Move into the lunch room, visit the buffet, and be seated*
- LUNCHEON: Speakers**
- 12:45 pm**                    **ACWI Recognition: Special Thanks to our member organizations**  
Toni Johnson, ACWI Executive Secretary
- 1:05**                         **Guest Speaker: The Climate Change Science Program**  
Pete Schultz, Director  
Climate Change Science Program Office  
University Corporation for Atmospheric Research  
*For more information refer to the following web site:*  
<http://www.climatescience.gov/default.php>
- 1:35 pm**                    *Return to the main meeting room*

- 1:40 pm**                      **ACWI Special Session: Water for America Initiative**
- **1:40 pm** – National Water Census  
Robert Hirsch, USGS Associate Director for Water
  - **1:55 pm** – Overview of Water Supply Management Programs  
Bob Quint, Director, Operations, Bureau of Reclamation
  - **2:10 pm** – Overview of Science Objectives and Proposed Scope  
Bill Alley, USGS Chief, Office of Ground Water  
Eric Evenson, USGS Coordinator, Water for America Initiative
  - **3:00 pm** – Process for Stakeholder Feedback  
Toni Johnson, ACWI Executive Secretary
- For more information refer to the following web sites:*  
<http://www.doi.gov/initiatives/water.html>  
<http://water.usgs.gov/wsi/>
- 3:05 pm**                      **BREAK (10 minutes)**
- 3:15 pm**                      **ACWI Stakeholder Discussion of National Water Census**  
All ACWI representatives of member organizations are asked to participate as representative stakeholders – Moderator TBD  
Discussion will be focused on the following 5 questions:
1. What are the key types of national and regional decisions and policy issues that need improved water information?
  2. What specific variables or indicators would be most useful to inform national and regional water availability decisions?
  3. What are the appropriate spatial and temporal scales for such an effort? How can we best design the study to provide information useful at the national, regional, and State scales?
  4. What information products would be most useful to report the results of the study?
  5. Are there collaborative opportunities to work with regional, State, and local water resources agencies in conducting the water census?
- 4:15 pm**                      **Review and Reminders**  
Toni Johnson, ACWI Executive Secretary
- 4:30 pm**                      **ADJOURN Day One**

**Advisory Committee on Water Information (ACWI)  
2008 Annual Meeting February 20-21, 2008**

**AGENDA**

**DAY TWO – THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2008**

- 8:00 am**                      **Check In and Refreshments**
- 8:30 am**                      **Welcome and Review**  
Toni Johnson, ACWI Executive Secretary
- 8:40 am**                      **ACWI Report: Subcommittee on Hydrology (SOH)**
- **8:40 am** - SOH Overview and Update on Satellite Telemetry  
Steve Blanchard, USGS Chief, Office of Surface Water and  
SOH Chair
  - **9:00 am** – Hydrologic Frequency and Analysis Work Group  
Revisions to Bulletin 17B  
Will Thomas, Michael Baker Corp. and Assoc. of State Flood Plain  
Managers, Workgroup Chair
  - **9:20 am** – Hydrologic and Hydraulic GIS Applications Workgroup  
William Merkel, USDA, Workgroup Chair
- 9:30 am**                      ***ACWI Discussion and Response regarding SOH Activities***
- 9:45 am**                      **Panel Discussion: National Streamgaging Programs – National  
Streamflow Information Program (NSIP) and Cooperative Water  
Program (CWP) and Stakeholder Input**
- **9:45 am** – Introduction and Loss of Essential Streamgages  
Peter Evans, Interstate Council on Water Policy (ICWP)
  - **10:00 am** – Regional Stakeholder Meetings and Recommendations  
Sue Lowry, Wyoming State Engineers Office, ACWI Rep for ICWP
  - **10:15 am** – Assessment of Data Gaps Affecting Western Watershed  
Planning  
Barney Austin, Texas Water Development Board and ACWI Rep for  
Western States Water Council
  - **10:30 am** – USGS Response
    - Robert Hirsch, USGS Associate Director for Water
    - Mike Norris, USGS NSIP Coordinator
    - Ward Staubitz, USGS CWP Coordinator
- 10:45 am**                      ***ACWI Discussion and Response regarding NSIP***
- 11:00 am**                      **BREAK (10 minutes)**

**11:15 am**                    **Guest Speaker: The Secure Water Act**  
Michael Connor, Counsel for the Committee on Energy and  
the Environment  
*For more information, refer to the following web site:*  
<http://aquadoc.typepad.com/waterwired/2007/10//secure-water-ac.html>

**11:30 am**                    **ACWI Report: The National Water Quality Monitoring Network for  
U.S. Coastal Waters and their Tributaries (Network)**  
➤ **11:30 am** – Refinements to the Network Design  
Charles Spooner, EPA Co-Chair of the National Water Quality  
Monitoring Council (NWQMC) and Network  
*(Note: ACWI Input to Refinements will be discussed in more detail  
at a Luncheon Roundtable)*  
➤ **11:45 am** – Summary Report with Highlights from the Pilot Studies  
*Delaware Bay, San Francisco Bay, Lake Michigan*  
Gail Mallard, USGS Co-Chair of NWQMC and Network  
*For more information, refer to the following web site:*  
<http://acwi.gov/monitoring/network/pilots>

**12:15 pm**                    **ACWI Discussion and Response on the Network**

### **LUNCHEON ROUNDTABLES**

**12:30 pm**                    *Move into the lunch room, visit the buffet, and be seated at a roundtable  
of interest for further discussion and input*

**12:45 – 1:35 pm**        **Roundtable Discussions (50 minutes)**

- SOGW: Coordination Opportunities with ACWI Subgroups
- SOGW: Discussion of SOGW Issues
- NWQMC: Progress and Next Steps
- MDCB: Special workgroups to assist with Network Implementation  
(e.g., Sensors; Statistics; Event, Continuous, and Realtime Monitoring)
- SWRR: Refinements to Sustainability Indicators/Criteria  
*(Handouts will be provided)*

**1:35 pm**                    *Return to the main meeting room*

- 1:45 pm**                    **ACWI Update: Improved Access to Water Data through Web Services**  
*Cooperative Effort among EPA/STORET and USGS/NWIS*  
Dwane Young, USEPA
- 2:05 pm**                    ***ACWI Discussion and Response on Web Services***
- 2:15 pm**                    **Public Comment Period** under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) Toni Johnson, ACWI Executive Secretary
- Member Announcements and Comments**
- 2:45 pm**                    **ACWI Report: Methods and Data Comparability Board**  
➤ **2:45 pm** – Overview, Future Plans and Next Steps  
Eric Vowinkel, USGS Co-Chair of the Board  
➤ **3:00 pm** – Update on the National Environmental Methods Index  
Dan Sullivan, USGS Executive Secretary of the Board
- 3:10 pm**                    ***ACWI Discussion and Response on the Methods Board***
- 3:20 pm**                    **ACWI Report: Subcommittee on Sedimentation (SOS)**  
➤ **3:20 pm** – Overview and Status of SOS  
Jerry Webb, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and SOS Vice-Chair
- 3:35 pm**                    ***ACWI Discussion and Response on the SOS***
- 3:45 pm**                    **ACWI Report: Sustainable Water Resources Roundtable (SWRR)**  
➤ **3:45pm** – Refinements to Criteria and Indicators  
Robert Goldstein, Electric Power Research Institute  
➤ **4:00 pm** – Next Steps for SWRR  
Ethan T. Smith, Retired and SWRR Coordinator
- 4:10 pm**                    ***ACWI Discussion and Response on the SWRR***
- 4:20 pm**                    **Review of ACWI 2008 Actions**  
Toni Johnson, ACWI Executive Secretary
- 4:30 pm**                    **ADJOURN ACWI 2008**

*With sincere thanks to our Representatives,  
Alternates and Guests for a successful ACWI Annual  
Meeting!*